

REMARKS

Claims 34-63 are currently pending in the subject application, and are presently under consideration. Claims 34 and 35 are allowed. Claims 1, 5, 17, and 20 are rejected. Claims 2-4, 6-16, 18, 19, and 21-33 have been indicated as allowable. Claims 1-33 have been canceled. New claims 36-63 have been added. Favorable reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the amendments and comments herein.

Claim Objections

Claim 3 has been objected to as not being dependent on a preceding claim. It is respectfully submitted that, in addition to claim 3, claims 7, 15, 19, 22, and 29 also did not depend from a preceding claim, and hence neither did claims 4, 8, 11, 12, 25, and 28 which depend therefrom. In order to facilitate better claim organization and renumbering after issuance, claims 1-33 have been canceled and rewritten as new claims 36-63. Previous claims 1, 5, 9, 16, 2, 6, 10, 14, 30, 31, 15, 3, 4, 8, 12, 7, 11, 17, 20, 23, 26, 32, 33, 19, 22, 25, 28, and 29 correspond to new claims 36-63, respectively. Consideration and allowance of new claims 36-63 are respectfully requested.

II. Claim Rejections

Claims 1 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,041,050 to Sanders ("Sanders"). Claims 5 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sanders in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,279,132 to Linsky et al. ("Linsky"). Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested for at least the following reasons.

New claim 36, which corresponds to previous claim 1, includes all of the elements of canceled claim 13, which has been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. New claim 53, which corresponds to previous claim 17, includes all of the elements of canceled claim 18, which has been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. New claims 37 and

54, which correspond to previous claims 5 and 20, respectively, depend from claims 36 and 53, respectively. Accordingly, claims 36-63 should be in a condition of allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 34 and 35 are allowed.

Claims 2-4, 6-16, 18-19 and 21-33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As described above, new claims 36 and 53 contain the claim elements of canceled claims 13 and 18, and claims 1-33 have been canceled and rewritten as new claims 36-63, respectively. Accordingly, all claims should be in a condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and that the application be passed to issue.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this amendment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,

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